



**North Carolina General Assembly  
Senate Chamber  
State Legislative Building  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808**



February 3, 2010

Elizabeth Day  
FTA Office of Planning and Environment

Dear Ms. Day,

This letter expresses my strong support and appreciation for the application submitted by the City of Charlotte for funds from the Urban Circulator Program Grant. I am a strong supporter of the Urban Circulator Grant Program that would be used to build the City's Streetcar Starter Project.

The Streetcar Starter Project is part of the proposed 10 mile Charlotte Streetcar Project, which falls closely in line with the Federal Transit Administration's Livable Communities initiative: it will operate in the highest density ridership segment on the 10 mile corridor, will increase transportation choices and will improve transit service accessibility for some of the most economically disadvantaged populations and non-drivers in the Charlotte metropolitan region. The project plan resulted from a planning process which coordinated land use and planning decisions developed in conjunction with documented community participation.

The service recommended for the Streetcar Starter Project will be 1.5 miles in length, linking Presbyterian Hospital and the Charlotte Transportation Center. This service will provide opportunities for the community to be connected directly to jobs in center city Charlotte, Central Piedmont Community College, Presbyterian Hospital and many other businesses and services located along and adjacent to the project. Direct connection with the Charlotte Transportation Center also allows the community to access other job, educational, housing and recreational opportunities located on our local and regional transit routes.

The project is an integral part of Charlotte's Transit Corridor System Plan implemented in 1998 and is a stepping stone to providing equitable service levels and amenities to the lower income areas east and west of Charlotte. The City of Charlotte and its citizens have already started to implement the streetcar plan. The urban circulator grant will put streetcars in the streets of Charlotte and for the reasons stated above, will help our city take one more step toward being a more livable community.

Thank you for your kind consideration and support of the City of Charlotte's application. We appreciate and thank you for your ongoing support of the City's and CATS programs and look forward to welcoming you to ride these services with us in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malcolm R. Graham". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Malcolm R. Graham

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Ronald Carter  
Mayor Anthony Foxx